



29315

PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Brendan P. MURRAY, *et al.*

CPA of Serial No.: 09/384,443

Filed: August 27, 1999

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING  
CHARACTERS IN A MESSAGE

Docket No.: 23452-089

Confirmation No.: 7839

Group Art Unit: 2654

Examiner: Patrick Nestor Edouard

RECEIVED

MAR 07 2003

Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 5, 2002, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims according to the attached Appendix. The final form  
of these claims is set out below.

1. (Twice Amended) A method of evaluating characters in a message, comprising the

steps of:

creating a character table bank having at least one row representing an entry for a  
predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row,  
wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set;  
accepting an input of the characters of the message; and